(c) whether it is also a fact that the number of affected children is increasing continuously;

(d) if so, whether Government are taking any special measures to check this disease; and

(e) the details of action plan adopted/being adopted for the prevention of the said disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) There is no community based survey available in published literature from India about the incidence (New cases per year) and prevalence (Total number of cases) of arthritis in children.

(b) The treatment of Arthritis include: early diagnosis, medical treatment, physiotherapy and social support for the child and family. The medicines commonly used for treatment of Arthritis are available in open markets; physiotherapy departments are available in Medical Colleges and big hospitals for treatment of Arthritis. There are separate Paediatric Rhematology services available only in few tertiary care hospitals.

(c) ICMR has reported that in the absence of community based surveys no data on affected children is available. However, Safdarjung Hospital has reported that incidence of Arthritis cases has gone down.

(d) and (e) Since the cause of chronic arthritis in children is not exactly known, it is difficult to prepare an action plan for prevention. However, an early diagnosis and appropriate management may prevent/decrease the disability resulting from the illness.

Small family norms

1157. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no uniform policy in the country regarding encouraging people to adopt small family norms;

(b) whether Government are aware that in China the slogan to control population is "HUM DO HUMARE EK" unlike Indian's slogan "HUM DO HUMARE DO";

(c) if so, whether Government proposed to enact any legislation to adopt uniform policy to control population explosion; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount of assistance provided by Government for encouraging people to adopt small family norms during the last three years, till date, state-wise, particularly in Maharashtra and Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The Family Welfare Programme in India is voluntary in nature, which enables a couple to adopt the family planning methods, best suited to them, according to their choice, without any compulsion. They are free to decide about the size of their family. Therefore, the policy of the Government is to promote small family norm without prescribing the number of children or coercion.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Keeping in view of the policy stated at (a) above, there is no proposal to enact any Legislation as the 79th Constitution Amendment Bill, 1992 proposing to introduce the two-child norm for MPs and MLAs (with prospective effect) has been pending in the Parliament for the last 12 years due to lack of unanimity on the subject among various political groups/parties.

(d) A Statement showing details of assistance released during the last three years for encouraging people to adopt small family norms is enclosed.

Statement

Total State-wise releases on all programmes/schemes for the period 2002-03 To 2004-05

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No. 2004-2005	Name of State/UT	2002-2003	2003-2004
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	19821.17	24187.52	30059.33
2	Arunachal Pradesh	785.62	545.42	848.22
3	Assam	14358.75	11073.99	7895.22
4	Bihar	22449.70	24618.92	29117.91
5	Chhatisgarh	7818.05	8944.55	9242.70
6	Goa	184.46	337.24	489.43
7	Gujarat	14605.69	16852.43	20067.61
8	Haryna	5682.61	8326.63	7903.82
9	Himachal Pradesh	3667.73	4009.02	4278.19

1	2	3	4	5
10	Jammu & Kashmir	3293.74	3156.28	4162.85
11	Jharkhand	8290.23	9555.72	9827.08
12	Karnataka	19118.87	14407.64	19907.22
13	Kerala	8387.82	8621.27	10644.81
14	Madhya Pradesh	14107.10	20237.48	23256.97
15	Maharashtra	24531.36	24971.36	28116.16
16	Manipur	1907.68	1493.21	725.13
17	Meghalaya	1296.31	797.65	931.76
18	Mizoram	1678.70	1067.97	1288.26
19	Nagaland	1195.09	924.83	1078.41
20	Orissa	10085.03	10915.38	12049.59
21	Punjab	2857.36	5698.35	6958.79
22	Rajasthan	18980.09	25618.03	25910.23
23	Sikkim	660.50	673.26	533.42
24	Tamil Nadu	17478.95	16255.46	19407.40
25	Tripura	1689.63	968.35	1202.93
26	Uttar Pradesh	50626.42	61266.25	68219.15
27	Uttranchal	3378.77	4141.05	3880.81
28	West Bengal	16164.84	19508.90	22225.01
	TOTAL-All States	295102.27	329174.16	370228.61
	UTs with Legislature			
1	Delhi *	1884.04	4246.22	3339.87
2	Pondicherry	495.02	839.92	655.70
	UTs without Legislature			
1	A&N Islands	438.24	381.40	406.61
2	Chandigarh	401.30	225.13	255.77
3	D&N Haveli	101.27	125.03	109.00
4	Daman & Diu	167.56	115.37	133.79
5	Lakshdweep	73.71	84.68	67.68
	TOTAL (UTs)	3561.14	6017.75	4968.42
	GRAND TOTAL	298663.41	335191.91	375197.03